

The humble Petition of Peter Chamberlain, Doctor in Physick, Eldest Fellow surviving of the Colledge of London; the Onely remaining Physician of the Old Courts, and the First and Eldest Physician to His Majesty that now is, and in Ordinary to His Royal Person.
Most humbly sheweth;

THat your Petitioner having (with leave) been abroad and returned in His Majesty's Service, Improved with the New-Invention of NAVIGATING WITH ALL WINDS IN A STRAIGHT LINE; for the which he hath obtained Patents in *France, Venice, and the United Netherlands*: To him, his Heirs and Assigns for ever. Without Inducement of any Model or Demonstration, save barely the Curiosity, and Consequential Benefit of the said ART: And upon Consideration of the long Time and vast Expence of the Petitioner, without the least Charges to any other. Prohibiting all others, of what Quality or Degree soever, to Attempt or Use the like either in Small or in Great, in Whole or in Part, or under what Pretence soever, without their Consent: upon Pain of such Weekly Penalties and Confiscations as are there specified.

Your Petitioner most humbly prays, That having brought the First Fruits hereof to be laid at His Majesty's Feet, and the Nations: he may finde no less Favour and Kindness in his own Native Country, than he hath obtained of Strangers abroad. But that your Honours will vouchsafe him an ACT to all Intents and Purposes aforesaid.
And your Petitioner shall ever pray, &c.

Because Envy or Ignorance will ever finde Objections to what Good soever is propounded; much more against so Great an Heresie in Navigation, which crosseth the Proverb (Against the Wind) the Petitioner thought good to prevent such Suggestions from prejudicating the Wisdom of Parliament, by these Reasons following.

1. **Objection.** *It stands not with the Wisdom of Parliament, to grant a Thing so Incredible, which the Learnedst Mathematicians and Expertest Sea-men believe not; without a Model or Demonstration.*
Answer.

1. It stands not with the Wisdom of Parliament to refuse a Thing so beneficial, for want of a Model or Demonstration, though Learned Mathematicians and Expert Sea-men believe it not.

2. They believe it not, because they know it not.

3. The Petitioner would not for more than it hath cost him, that it should yet be known or believed.

4. Had it been so common, the Petitioner had been very unwise to present it to the greatest Mathematicians and Sea-men of the World.

5. The Councils of *England and France* are blamed to this day for refusing *America*.

6. Who considers the Rudder, the Loadstone, the Half-quarter Wind, yea, the Ship it self: Or Printing, Weaving, and many other Arts, once as Incredible?

7. The more Incredible, the more Desirable.
τὰ καλὰ χαλεπὰ.

8. The Wisdom of *France, Venice, and the Low-Countries*, in this have led the way.

9. *Exitus acta probat*, The proof of the Pudding is in the eating.

10. If it be *Nothing*, the Parliament grants *Nothing*. If it succeed, none can complain for receiving Benefit out of what yet never yielded any.

11. If it be *Nothing*, it costs the Parliament *Nothing*, but a *FIAT*, when as the Credit, or Ruine of the Petitioner is at stake, and hath and will cost him *Many Thousands* to do them and his Country this Service.

12. No man parts with a Jewel, without Price agreed and Assurance.

13. Reason of State permits no Overture of it, till secured: and that His Majesty be informed therein, and also His Royal Highness.

2. **Obj.** *When a Model is made, other Nations may have it also.*
Answer.

1. So 'tis intended.

2. We forbear not Shipping, because others have them.

3. **Object** *Other Nations may get it to our Prejudice.*
Answer.

1. We have the more need of it first.

2. This is one Reason why yet no Model.

3. If we neglect, others may have it, and we not.

4. **Object.** *Perpetuity not usual.*
Answer.

1. Nor are such Presentments usual.

2. The Publick Benefit is perpetual, why not the Publick Reward?

3. 'Tis so granted in other Countries.

4. The Marquis of Worcester is a Precedent.

5. Fourteen years may be elapsed, before all the Models perfected: Though some Completed in Six Months.

6. The Time and Charge, with Merit of the Service, make their humble Appeal for all.

5. **Obj.** *The Art may be too burdensome for the Subject.*
Answer.

1. They are at liberty to leave it: 'tis not Imposed.

2. On condition to be allowed within One per Cent. of the Ordinary Charge for Vessel and Voyage; the Petitioner is content to be limited to take no more.

6. **Obj.** *The Author too small for so great a Designe.*
Answer.

1. Not if his Services were known and rewarded, as others: Or he wore the Badge of his Ancestors. Or all his Losses repaid.

2. Not if Influenced with the Favour and Indulgence of King and Parliament.

3. HE that gave the Gift, and THEY to whom 'tis presented, can (if they please) Answer this Objection.

4. The greatest Achievements have been performed (sometimes) by persons less considerable.

5. 'Tis rashness without wisdom or justice, to blast the Person, and so all he propounds.

Chi parla al dietro (dice l'Italiano) parla al 100.
5. 50. 0.

6. A Pearl is a Pearl, though on a Dunghil.

7. 'Tis time enough to finde fault, when the Petitioner hath failed.